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EXAMINER	
GUPTA, MUKTESH G	

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/776,459	VERNON ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Muktesh G. Gupta	2444	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *18 June 2009*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-30* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-30* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. **Claim 1** is amended.

Claims 1-30 are presented for examination have been examined on merits and are pending in this application.

Response to Amendment

2. Acknowledgment is made for Applicants Amendments for claims filed on 06/18/2009.

Claim 1 rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph withdrawn as argument presented for written description requirement is persuasive.

Applicant's amendment to claim necessitated updating search and new ground(s) of rejection presented in this office action.

Applicant's arguments are deemed moot in view of the following new grounds of rejection as explained here below, necessitated by Applicant's substantial amendment (i.e., *and automatically attempt to connect at least one client device and the endpoint; wherein the automatically obtained endpoint address information and the associated plurality of endpoint addresses is performed in at least one of: parallel, sequentially and simultaneously for one or more participants in the collaboration system*) to the claim which significantly affected the scope thereof.

Applicant's arguments with respect to amended **Claims 1-30,** have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. **Claims 1-30** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6437818 to Ludwig et al., (hereinafter "Ludwig"), and in view of U.S. Patent No. 7334017 to Hawkes; Rycharde Jeffery et al., (hereinafter "Hawkes").

As regards to Claim 1, *Ludwig discloses a multimedia collaboration system for facilitating a multimedia collaboration session between a plurality of participants, comprising a plurality of client devices associated with each of the plurality of participants, each of the plurality of client devices configured to store endpoint address information associated with the associated participant, the multimedia collaboration system configured to* (as stated in col. 5, line 61-67, col. 6, lines 1-6, Col. 18, lines 38-41, lines 52-67, and col. 19, line 21-31, col. 14, lines 62-67, col. 15, lines 1-11 Ludwig discloses, plurality of collaborative multimedia workstations with multimedia devices connects to multimedia local area networks and wide area networks to provide audio/video/data networking for supporting collaboration among collaborative multimedia workstation users. The central component of the Collaborative Multimedia

Workstation software is the Collaboration Initiator 161. All collaborative functions can be accessed through this module. When the Collaboration Initiator is started, it exchanges initial configuration information with the Audio Video Network Manager (AVNM) 60 (shown in FIG. 3) through Data Network 902. Information is also sent from the Collaboration Initiator to the AVNM indicating the location of the user, the types of services available on that workstation (e.g., videoconferencing, data conferencing, telephony, etc.) and other relevant initialization information (Examiner interprets that, client device is the workstation and the workstation software is configured to store endpoint addressing information stored locally on the workstation of the participant). System also allows sessions to be invoked from the keyboard. It provides a graphical editor to bind combinations of participants and session types to certain hot keys. Once the user selects the desired participant and session type, Collaboration Initiator module retrieves necessary addressing information from Directory Service. One embodiment of a CMW 12 of the present invention is illustrated in FIG. 18A. Currently available personal computers (e.g., an Apple Macintosh or an IBM-compatible PC, desktop or laptop) and workstations (e.g., a Sun SPARCstation) can be adapted to work with the present invention to provide such features as real-time videoconferencing, data conferencing, multimedia mail, etc. In business situations, it can be advantageous to set up a laptop to operate with reduced functionality via cellular telephone links and removable storage media (e.g., CD-ROM, video tape with timecode support, etc.), but take on full capability back in the office via a docking station connected to the MLAN 10.

This requires a voice and data modem as yet another function server attached to the MLAN):

automatically obtain the endpoint address information from each of the client devices (as stated in col. 19, lines 1-67, col. 38, lines 62-67, col. 39, lines 1-29 Ludwig discloses, Once the user selects the desired participant and session type, Collaboration Initiator module 161 retrieves necessary addressing information from Directory Service 66 (see FIG. 21). In the case of a videoconference call, the Collaboration Initiator (or, in another embodiment, VideoPhone module 169) then communicates with the AVNM to set up the necessary data structures and manage the various states of that call, and to control A/V Switching Circuitry 30, which selects the appropriate audio and video signals to be transmitted to/from each participant's CMW. additional collaborative services--such as Mail 165, Application Sharing 166, Computer-Integrated Telephony 167 and Computer Integrated Fax 168--are also available from the CMW by utilizing Collaboration Initiator module 161 to initiate the session (i.e., to contact the participants) and to invoke the appropriate application necessary to manage the collaborative session. When initiating asynchronous collaboration (e.g., mail, fax, etc.), the Collaboration Initiator contacts Directory Service 66 for address information (e.g., EMAIL address, fax number, etc.) for the selected participants and invokes the appropriate collaboration tools with the obtained address information. For real-time sessions, the Collaboration Initiator queries the Service Server module 69 inside AVNM 63 for the current location of the specified participants (*endpoint address information).* Using this location information, it communicates (via the AVNM) with the Collaboration

Initiators of the other session participants to coordinate session setup. As a result, the various Collaboration Initiators will invoke modules 166, 167 or 168 (including activating any necessary devices such as the connection between the telephone and the CMW's audio I/O port. In FIG. 42 deferred call indicator 271 and the indicator for the call placed on hold (next to the highlighted RESUME button in video window 203), as well as the image of caller 272 from the laptop in the field in Central Mexico. Although Mexican caller 272 is outdoors and has no direct access to any wired telephone connection, his laptop has two wireless modems permitting dial-up access to two data connections in the nearest field office (through which his calls were routed). The system automatically (based upon the laptop's registered service capabilities) allocated one connection for an analog telephone voice call (using his laptop's built-in microphone and speaker and the Expert's computer-integrated telephony capabilities) to provide audio teleconferencing. Despite the limited capabilities of the wireless laptop equipment, the present invention accommodates such capabilities, supplementing an audio telephone connection with limited (i.e., relatively slow) one-way video and data conferencing functionality. As telephony and video compression technologies improve, the present invention will accommodate such improvements automatically);

associate a plurality of endpoint addresses associated with a participant of the plurality of participant, with a network and with a media type, wherein the endpoint address is any end point that can communicate including a website, a session initiation protocol telephone, a telephone, a cellular telephone, a personal digital assistant, and any other type of media component that can communicate (as stated in col. 20, lines

16-25, col. 21, lines 65-67, col. 22, lines 1-13, col. 18, lines 17-32 Ludwig discloses, clients (e.g., software-controlling workstations, VCRs, laserdisks, multimedia resources, etc.) communicate with the MLAN Server Software Modules 62 using the TCP/IP network protocols. Generally, the AVNM 63 cooperates with the Service Server 69, Conference Bridge Manager (CBM 64 in FIG. 21) and the WAN Network Manager (WNM 65 in FIG. 21) to manage communications within and among both MLANs 10 and WANs 15 (FIGS. 1 and 3). The basic underlying software-controlled operations occurring for a two-party call are diagrammatically illustrated in FIG. 23. After logging to AVNM 63, as indicated by (1) in FIG. 23, a caller initiates a call (e.g., by selecting a user from the graphical rolodex and clicking the call button or by double-clicking the face icon of the callee on the quick-dial panel). The caller's Collaboration Initiator responds by identifying the selected user and requesting that user's address from Directory Service 66, as indicated by (2) in FIG. 23. Directory Service 66 looks up the callee's address in the directory database, as indicated by (3) in FIG. 23, and then returns it to the caller's Collaboration Initiator, as illustrated by (4) in FIG. 23. The caller's Collaboration Initiator sends a request to the AVNM to place a video call to the caller with the specified address, as indicated by (5) in FIG. 23. A portable laptop implementation can be made to deliver multimedia mail with video, audio and synchronized annotations via CD-ROM or an add-on videotape unit with separate video, audio and time code tracks (a stereo videotape player can use the second audio channel for time code signals). Videotapes or CD-ROMs can be created in main offices and express mailed, thus avoiding the need for high-bandwidth networking when on the road. Cellular phone links can be used to

obtain both voice and data communications (via modems). Modem-based data communications are sufficient to support remote control of mail or presentation playback, annotation, file transfer and fax features. The laptop can then be brought into the office and attached to a docking station where the available MLAN 10 and additional functions adapted from Add-on box 800 can be supplied, providing full CMW capability);

select appropriate endpoint address from the participant's client device based on type of request, the network and the media type (as stated in col. 19, lines 8-20, lines 28-38, col. 20, lines 40-54, col. 19, lines 57-67 Ludwig discloses, Once the user elects to initiate a collaborative session, he or she selects one or more desired participants by, for example, clicking on that name to select the desired participant from the system rolodex or a personal rolodex, or by clicking on the quick-dial button for that participant (see, e.g., FIG. 2A). In either case, the user then selects the desired session type--e.g., by clicking on a CALL button to initiate a videoconference call, a SHARE button to initiate the sharing of a snapshot image or blank whiteboard, or a MAIL button to send mail. Alternatively, the user can double-click on the rolodex name or a face icon to initiate the default session type--e.g., an audio/video conference call. Once the user selects the desired participant and session type, Collaboration Initiator module 161 retrieves necessary addressing information from Directory Service 66 (see FIG. 21). In the case of a videoconference call, the Collaboration Initiator (or, in another embodiment, VideoPhone module 169) then communicates with the AVNM (as described in greater detail below) to set up the necessary data structures and manage the various states of that call, and to control A/V Switching Circuitry 30, which selects

the appropriate audio and video signals to be transmitted to/from each participant's CMW. The AVNM 63 manages A/V Switching Circuitry 30 in FIG. 3 for selectively routing audio/video signals to and from CMWs 12, and also to and from WAN gateway 40, as called for by clients. Audio/video devices (e.g., CMWs 12, conference bridges 35, multimedia resources 16 and WAN gateway 40 in FIG. 3) connected to A/V Switching Circuitry 30 in FIG. 3, have physical connections for audio in, audio out, video in and video out. For each device on the network, the AVNM combines these four connections into a port abstraction, wherein each port represents an addressable bidirectional audio/video channel. Each device connected to the network has at least one port. Different ports may share the same physical connections on the switch, which selects the appropriate audio and video signals to be transmitted to/from each participant's CMW including activating any necessary devices such as the connection between the telephone and the CMW's audio I/O port, for the selected participants and invokes the appropriate collaboration tools with the obtained address information).

In related field of Collaboration Hawkes discloses, as stated in col. 10, lines 42-50, col. 13, lines 63-67, col. 14, lines 1-17, col. 24, lines 18-22, col. 19, lines 5-25 web interaction system allows considerable flexibility in how a request from a user to communicate with one or more other participants is satisfied. How the request is handled depends on the characteristics of the service 26 to which the request is directed, it being the service that controls what session is involved in the communication (including whether this is a new or an existing session) and what other participants are invited to join the selected session. More particularly, when a requesting party 16

selects a specific service via a web interface in their browser 29, they are passed service-specific pages 34 from a web server 33 that provides a service front-end. These pages, and associated server-side scripts and servelets, are used to collect data about the requesting party, service options, target subject etc, which is passed to a service-specific initiation instance 37 that was created (by functionality 36) in response to the initial selection of the service concerned by the requesting party. This initiation instance 37 resides on the communication session manager 14 and its identity is returned to the server 33 so As regards to enable data collected from the party 16 to be correctly passed back to the instance 37 (by way of example, this identity could be held in an endpoint-system-specific session object on the server 33 with session cookies, including a unique requesting-entity identifier, being used to link received HTTP requests from system 16 with the session object). The initiation instance 37 is operative first to carry out a data collection and collation task 38 to establish enough information to enable the right communication session to be selected, and (if appropriate) the right participants to be invited to join; this body of information is herein called the initiation context 40. For whichever session is currently selected (the currently selected session is highlighted in blue with only one call being in a selected state at one time), the session manager causes the media-type windows 85-88 to display the output of the corresponding media channels of the selected session. FIG. 7 shows one arrangement of equipment for implementing an embodiment of the above-described web interaction system in the case of a customer 60 connecting across the Internet 63 to an enterprise web server 64 and wishing to initiate web interaction services, including communication

with a CSR via CSR desktop 74. However, in broad terms, it can be seen that the web interaction system comprises endpoint systems (customer and CSR systems 60, 74) that can establish multi-media communication with each other using the services of a web interaction service system 64-70 that embodies the service front end 27, communication session manager 14, and session transport manager 19 of the FIG. 3 layered functional diagram);

It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify Ludwig's disclosure for providing collaboration system and method utilizing at least one control communications link where, the control communications link controls any of transmission, routing, multipoint conferencing, and end display of video signals as well as connection termination to endpoint address to that of Hawkes's web interaction system which allows considerable flexibility in how a request from a user to communicate with one or more other participants is satisfied based on the user's devices capabilities, preference, priority and network topology. Web browser of the participant's system launches graphical user interfaces (GUI) for each of the media types used in a communication session, as well as the required media channels for each of the media types in the session.

The modifications would have been obvious because one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated for a method, system, provide efficient mechanism for Collaboration through Web interaction system which is an example of hybridization between existing contact centers, are oriented around telephony, and the next generation of Internet Relationship Management centers which use Internet technology

for communication with a customers for providing various collaboration services simultaneously to multiple customers.

and automatically attempt to connect at least one client device and the endpoint; wherein the automatically obtained endpoint address information and the associated plurality of endpoint addresses is performed in at least one of: parallel, sequentially and simultaneously for one or more participants in the collaboration system (as stated in col. 11, lines 45-55 Ludwig discloses, provides a particularly advantageous way of minimizing delay, cost and degradation of video quality in a multi-party video teleconference involving geographically dispersed sites, while still delivering full conference views of all participants. Normally, in order for the CMWs at all sites to be provided with live audio/video of every participant in a teleconference simultaneously, each site has to allocate (in router/codec bank 42 in FIG. 4) a separate codec for each participant, as well as a like number of WAN trunks (via WAN switching multiplexer 44 in FIG. 4).

Further Hawkes also discloses, as stated in col. 8, lines 54-67, col. 16, lines 61-66, col. 17, lines 29-36, col. 6, lines 46-59, col. 24, lines 8-22, lines 31-43, Thus, where the endpoint system is the initiator of a communication service request, the initial state effectively corresponds to the period between when the request is issued and when an invitation to join a session is received back since the invitation will generally be automatically accepted by the endpoint system (note that the invitation may be either explicit or implied by the passing to the endpoint system of the information necessary to join a session). In contrast, where the endpoint system is one receiving an invitation

which it did not instigate, the initial state lasts between when the invitation is received and when it is accepted by the human or automated operator of the system. Depending on the nature of the service, upon the requesting party joining the selected session, one or more further participants can be automatically invited into the session by the service instance 26 on the basis of the information contained in the initiation context 40 the current state of the selected session, and the nature of the service concerned. Note that although in the foregoing the selection of an additional participant was initiated by the join event of the requesting party 16, task 52 could equally well have been triggered immediately following session selection whereby the invitation into the session of the participant effectively occurs in parallel with the invitation to the requesting party. The addition of a participant may also be initiated in the course of a session by an earlier-joined participant. A session transport encompasses one or more media channels 17 where a channel is an instance of a multi-party communications path between channel endpoints 22. A channel can be used to deliver any digital information that can be reduced to a sequence of bytes, and will deliver this information as a sequence of messages to multiple channel endpoints. Upon the CSR accepting the call by selecting the line and clicking an accept button, an appropriate icon is added to the status field of the call line (see FIG. 15) and the session manager 92 instantiates media clients 24 for the media types indicated in the media description of the session. These media clients then set up corresponding media channels to the session transport as already described. The state of the leg controller passes to `connecting` during channel set up and then to `established` once the channels have been set up. For whichever session is

currently selected (the currently selected session is highlighted in blue with only one call being in a selected state at one time), the session manager causes the media-type windows 85-88 to display the output of the corresponding media channels of the selected session. While dealing with one call, some new content may appear on the media channels associated with one of the other calls being handled by the CSR. When this occurs, an icon representing the media type of the new content is displayed in the call table's media column. Using this process, a skilled CSR should be able to handle a number of calls simultaneously).

As regards to Claim 2, *Ludwig and Hawkes disclose a multimedia collaboration system of claim 1, wherein the endpoint address information is used to add a new media component to the multimedia collaboration session* (as stated in lines col. 6, lines 7-18, Ludwig discloses, various other multimedia resources such as VCR, TV feeds are connected to multimedia LANs and there by accessible to individual collaborative multimedia workstations).

As regards to Claim 3, *Ludwig and Hawkes disclose a multimedia collaboration system of claim 1, wherein the endpoint address information for each participant comprises endpoint address information for a plurality of endpoints* (as stated in col. 8, lines 63-67, col. 9, lines 1-14, Ludwig discloses, for connecting to all the desired participants multimedia LAN server controls to set up the required audio/video/data

paths to conferees which in turn is endpoint address for participants as well as the associated devices in network paths).

As regards to Claim 4, *Ludwig and Hawkes disclose a multimedia collaboration system of claim 3, wherein priority can be assigned to the plurality of endpoints for each participant* (as stated in col. 37, lines 55-65, Ludwig discloses, priority can be assigned to multiple collaborative services associated with participants).

As regards to Claim 5, *Ludwig and Hawkes disclose a multimedia collaboration system of claim 3, wherein a hierarchy can be assigned to the plurality of endpoints for each participant* (as stated in col. 10, lines 66-67 and col. 11, lines 1-5, Ludwig discloses, in case of several multiple hop routes available, the routing system handles the network hierarchy at the connection endpoints).

As regards to Claim 6, *Ludwig and Hawkes disclose a multimedia collaboration system of claim 2, wherein the new media component is an audio conferencing component* (as stated in col. 16, lines 30-38, Ludwig discloses, a handset/headset jack enables the use of an integrated audio I/O device).

As regards to Claim 7, *Ludwig and Hawkes disclose a multimedia collaboration system of claim 6, wherein the addition of the audio conferencing component includes*

the addition of telephonic conferencing via a telephonic network (as stated in col. 19, lines 47-67 and col. 20, line 1, Ludwig discloses, Audio/Video Network Manager provides connection through a/v switches between telephone and collaborative multimedia workstation's audio I/O device).

As regards to Claim 8, *Ludwig and Hawkes disclose a multimedia collaboration system of claim 7, wherein the multimedia collaboration session occurs over a network that is separate from the telephonic network* (as stated in col. 7, lines 26-34, Ludwig discloses, multimedia audio network is separate from the multimedia data network).

As regards to *Claim 9,* *Ludwig and Hawkes disclose a multimedia collaboration system of claim 7, wherein the multimedia collaboration session occurs over one network and the added media component is associated with a second network* (as stated in col. 7, lines 26-34, Ludwig discloses, multimedia audio network is separate from the multimedia data network).

As regards to Claim 10, *Ludwig and Hawkes disclose a multimedia collaboration system of claim 9, wherein the two networks use separate access devices* (as stated in col. 7, lines 62-67 and col. 8, lines 1-6, Ludwig discloses, multimedia audio network access devices are separate from the multimedia data network access devices).

As regards to Claim 11, *Ludwig and Hawkes disclose a multimedia collaboration system of claim 9, wherein the two networks use different addressing schemes* (as stated in col. 7, lines 62-67, col. 8, lines 1-22, Ludwig discloses, data network uses different addressing schemes, the TCP/IP protocol suite for communicating with the server).

As regards to Claim 12, *Ludwig and Hawkes disclose a multimedia collaboration system of claim 2, wherein multimedia collaboration system is further configured to facilitate the addition of a new media component to the collaboration session by automatically storing the endpoint address information for each of the plurality of participants as each participant joins the multimedia collaboration session* (as stated in col. 21, lines 6-18, 65-67, col. 22, lines 1-25, Ludwig discloses, when participants are joining the collaborative services, audio/video network manager module registers, stores and replicates to other service servers the network resources of participants and the end point addresses).

As regards to Claims 13-14, *Ludwig and Hawkes disclose a multimedia collaboration system of claim 2, wherein the multimedia collaboration system is further configured to facilitate the addition of a new media component to the multimedia collaboration session upon receipt of a query from a existing and new participant* (as

stated in Col. 24, line 48-60, col. 25, line 26-43 and col. 26, lines 13-22 Ludwig discloses, new users are added along with there associated network/media devices as they are invited and when they want to join as an new participant to the collaborative session).

As regards to Claim 15, *Ludwig and Hawkes disclose a multimedia collaboration system of claim 1, wherein the endpoint address information comprises a uniform resource locator for a website* (as stated in col. 8, lines 38-62, col. 28, lines 14-28, Ludwig discloses, for accessing multimedia documents hyperlinks provide endpoint address to those documents).

As regards to Claim 16, *Ludwig and Hawkes disclose a multimedia collaboration system of claim 1, wherein the endpoints address information comprises a telephone number* (as stated in col. 16, lines 30-38, col. 19, lines 47-67, Ludwig discloses, as part of computer integrated telephony, collaborative multimedia workstations have telephone with number which is an endpoint address for the telephone).

As regards to Claim 17, *Ludwig and Hawkes disclose a multimedia collaboration system of claim 1, wherein the endpoint addresses information includes a list of addresses for the associated participant* (as stated in col. 19, lines 28—67 and

col. 20, lines 1-2, Ludwig discloses, participants collaborative multimedia workstations have, fax/mail/telephone/audio/video services with end point addresses).

As regards to Claim 18, *Ludwig and Hawkes disclose a multimedia collaboration system of claim 17, wherein the list of addresses corresponds to multiple client devices* (as stated in col. 19, lines 28—67 and col. 20, lines 1-2, Ludwig discloses, fax/mail/telephone/audio/video services are provided by the corresponding devices).

As regards to Claim 19, *Ludwig and Hawkes disclose a multimedia collaboration system of claim 17, wherein the multimedia collaboration system is further configured to automatically attempt to connect via each of addresses in the list of addresses until it achieves a successful connection* (as stated in col. 19, lines 28-67 and col. 20, lines 1-2, Ludwig discloses, Collaborative Initiator Module initiates connections to collaborative services when participant joins the session).

As regards to Claim 20, *Ludwig and Hawkes disclose a multimedia collaboration system of claim 19, wherein the endpoint address information includes multiple phone numbers for the associated participant* (as stated in col. 16, lines 30-38, col. 19, lines 28-67 and col. 20, lines 1-2 Ludwig discloses, associated participant have telephone, fax and number associated with them).

As regards to Claim 21, *Ludwig and Hawkes disclose a multimedia collaboration system of claim 20, wherein the multimedia collaboration system is further configured to automatically dial each of the multiple phone numbers until it achieves a successful audio connection* (as stated in col. 19, lines 28-67 and col. 20, lines 1-2, Ludwig discloses, Collaborative Initiator Module initiates connections to collaborative services when participant joins the session).

As regards to Claim 22, *Ludwig and Hawkes disclose a multimedia collaboration system of claim 1, wherein it enables each participant to edit the participant's associated endpoint address information using the participant's associated client device* (as stated in col. 21, lines 19-30, lines 65-67 and col. 22, lines 1-25, lines 62-66, Ludwig discloses, participants can select services they want and edit and update corresponding endpoint address associated with the service devices).

As regards to Claim 23, *Ludwig and Hawkes disclose a multimedia collaboration system of claim 1, wherein the endpoint address information comprises an internet protocol address for a client device* (as stated in col. 8, lines 12-22, Ludwig discloses, collaborative multimedia workstation endpoint address is TCP/IP network protocol suite).

As regards to Claim 24, *Ludwig and Hawkes disclose a multimedia collaboration system of claim 1, wherein the multimedia collaboration system is further configured to distribute the endpoint address information obtained to each participant* (as stated in col. 19, lines 28-46 and col. 21, lines 6-30, Ludwig discloses, when participants select the services required, they register with service server which in turn replicates and distribute to other service servers).

As regards to Claim 25, *Ludwig and Hawkes disclose a multimedia collaboration system of claim 24, wherein the endpoint address information distributed by the multimedia collaboration system can be stored on each of the participant's associated client device* (as stated in col. 19, lines 59-67, col. 20, lines 1-2 and col. 21 lines 6-30, Ludwig discloses, participants endpoint address distributed by service server enables participant to add other participants shown on there collaborative multimedia workstation as icons).

As regards to Claim 26, *Ludwig and Hawkes disclose a multimedia collaboration system of claim 1, wherein endpoint address information is automatically collected from each client device when an associated participant joins the multimedia collaboration session using the client device* (as stated in col. 21 lines 6-30, lines 65-67, and col. 22, lines 1-25, Ludwig discloses, when participants joins a collaborative session

using client devices, they register with service server which automatically collects the end point address of the client device).

As regards to Claim 27, *Ludwig and Hawkes disclose a multimedia collaboration system of claim 2, wherein the new media component is a video stream component* (as stated in col. 29, lines 9-31, Ludwig discloses, multimedia conference is recorded and played as video stream).

As regards to Claim 28, *Ludwig and Hawkes disclose multimedia collaboration system of claim 27, wherein the endpoint address information obtained by the multimedia collaboration system can be distributed to client device associated with participants that wish to share video streams, and wherein the client devices can use the endpoint address information distributed to the client device to exchange the video streams between the client device* (as stated in col. 19, lines 28-46 and col. 21 lines 6-30, Ludwig discloses, participants can select the services they want and share with other participants video streams which are stored on servers with endpoint address associated for replay).

As regards to Claim 29, *Ludwig and Hawkes disclose a multimedia collaboration system of claim 28, wherein the client devices sharing the video streams share the video streams in a peer-to-manner using the distributed endpoint address*

information (as stated in col. 9, lines 4-14, col. 21 lines 65-67, and col. 22, lines 1-26, 55-61, Ludwig discloses, Audio/Video switching is peer-to-peer basis between servers).

As regards to Claim 30, *Ludwig and Hawkes disclose a multimedia collaboration system of claim 2, wherein each of the plurality of central servers is configured to handle a different media component* (as stated in col. 21, lines 6-18, col. 28, lines 52-55, col. 30 lines 28-30, Ludwig discloses, multiple servers are used for collaborative services, service server, audio/video storage servers and data server for time-sensitive media and media that have synchronization requirements with other media components).

Action Final

4. THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Muktesh G. Gupta whose telephone number is 571-270-5011. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m., EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William C. Vaughn can be reached on 571-272-3922. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

MG

/William C. Vaughn, Jr./

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2444